

Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership (APNEP)
May 2021

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Albemarle - Pamlico

National Estuary Partnership

Sound Stories

May 2021



This month we have many exciting new announcements from us and our partners to share with you all. First off, I want to invite high school science educators to [apply for this summer's Teacher Institute](#), an APNEP-funded initiative led by the UNC Institute for the Environment with the goal of introducing teachers to coastal ecosystems through hands-on field trips and activities. The deadline to apply is June 6th so don't wait to send in your application!

I'd also like to welcome our summer Science Communication and Outreach Intern, Abigail McNaughton, to the APNEP team. Abby will be assisting us with many of our communications and outreach projects; stay tuned to learn more about her projects later this summer!

In May we published our [2021-2022 Work Plan](#), which details our accomplishments from last year and projects for this upcoming year. We also published a new APNEP-funded [SAV Economic Valuation report](#) that was conducted by an interdisciplinary team from the NC State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences [Center for Environmental and Resource Economic Policy](#) (CEnREP) and [Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy](#). We hope these resources join the others in our [document library](#) as sources of

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We also want to remind our partners that the 2021 RFP for the [Restore America's Estuaries National Estuary Program Coastal Watersheds Grant](#) is now open. Letters of intent are due by June 7th and a letter from APNEP as the local National Estuary Program is required at part of each application. Please reach out to us at apnep@ncdenr.gov for more information.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bill Crowell

APNEP Director

APNEP News



*A Free Professional Development
Experience for 8-12th Grade Teachers*

At Water's Edge

**CURRENT WATERSHED SCIENCE
FOR THE CLASSROOM**

Learn more & Apply:
www.ie.unc.edu/at-waters-edge

Attention Educators: Apply Now for the Summer Teacher Institute!

Attention high school science teachers! [Apply by June 6](#) for this summer's UNC Institute for the Environment *At Water's Edge* Teacher Institute! Explore coastal ecosystems

Learn more about and apply for the Teacher Institute



APNEP Welcomes Summer Intern Abby McNaughton

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to Abigail McNaughton, our Science Communication and Outreach Intern for the summer. Abby is a rising senior at UNC-Chapel Hill who is pursuing a degree in Environmental Studies with minors in Geography and Anthropology. She has previously worked with the Water Institute at UNC and the Robeson County Cooperative for Sustainable Development, and is passionate about environmental justice, environmental policy, and community outreach and engagement.





SAV Spotlight

A lot has been going on in the world of submerged aquatic vegetation last month! Early in May, APNEP staff and [SAV Team members](#) organized a training workshop led by SAV Team member Dr. Jessie Jarvis of the UNCW Institute for Marine Science. At the workshop, regional partners collaborating in 2021 seagrass monitoring efforts learned about sampling protocols and SAV identification. APNEP staff and partners also have been spending time out on the water (pictured above), participating in seagrass sampling in Back and Bogue sounds that will contribute to the Partnership's larger [SAV monitoring efforts](#).

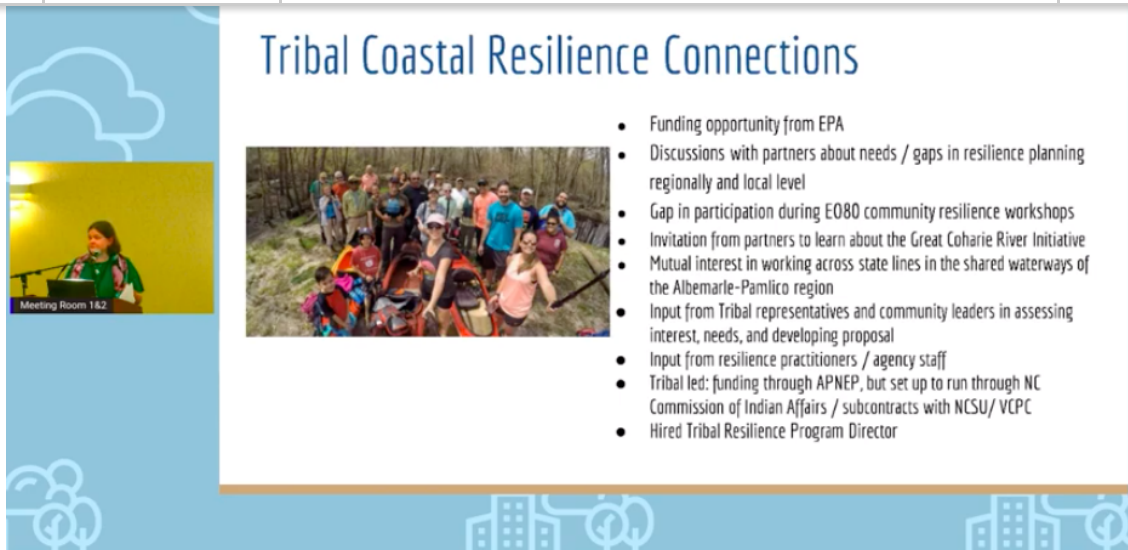
Additionally, we're excited to announce that a new [SAV Economic Valuation report](#) funded by APNEP and conducted by an interdisciplinary team from the NC State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences [Center for Environmental and Resource Economic Policy](#) (CEnREP) and [Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy](#) was published this month! The report measures economic impacts from declines in submerged aquatic vegetation in the Albemarle-Pamlico estuary, highlighting the need to protect this valuable habitat.

Read the SAV Economic Valuation Report



2021-22 APNEP Work Plan Published

Our 2021-22 Annual Work Plan is now published and [available on our website](#). This document highlights APNEP's accomplishments from last year, explains our priorities for the upcoming year, and provides details about the projects that the Partnership has been funding.



Tribal Coastal Resilience Connections

- Funding opportunity from EPA
- Discussions with partners about needs / gaps in resilience planning regionally and local level
- Gap in participation during E080 community resilience workshops
- Invitation from partners to learn about the Great Coharie River Initiative
- Mutual interest in working across state lines in the shared waterways of the Albemarle-Pamlico region
- Input from Tribal representatives and community leaders in assessing interest, needs, and developing proposal
- Input from resilience practitioners / agency staff
- Tribal led: funding through APNEP, but set up to run through NC Commission of Indian Affairs / subcontracts with NCSU/ VCPC
- Hired Tribal Resilience Program Director

Tribal Resilience Project Session

During the recent [Carolinas Climate Resilience Conference](#), APNEP facilitated and sponsored a symposium featuring [Tribal Coastal Resilience Connections](#) team members Dr. Ryan Emanuel of NC State College of Natural Resources and Elizabeth Andrews of the Virginia Coastal Policy Center. During the symposium, team members shared best practices for Tribal engagement in climate resilience and adaptation planning and shared their experiences and lessons learned from working with Tribal partners. Check out the [video recording of the session](#) at the link below!

Watch the symposium recording

Meeting Summaries

- **APNEP Leadership Council Meeting (May 18th):** At the May Leadership Council meeting, APNEP staff presented the 2021-22 Work Plan for feedback and reported updates for the APNEP Science and Technical Advisory Committee and the Coastal Habitat Protection Plan. The APNEP-funded SAV Economic Valuation was also presented to and discussed by the Leadership Council.
- **APNEP-NC Coastal Federation Living Shorelines Workgroup Meeting (May 27th):** Committee members learned about the role living shorelines play in the 2021 Oyster Blueprint. The group also discussed how best to compile permit data for past living shorelines, and next steps for editing an accomplishments document to

updates on current efforts regarding living shoreline research, implementation and incentives, and education and outreach.



Upcoming Events & Meetings

All meetings associated with APNEP's committees, Action Teams, and Monitoring & Assessment Teams are free and open to the public. For more information, please contact apnep@ncdenr.gov.

- **APNEP Science and Technical Advisory Committee Meeting** | June 9th, 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM (contact apnep@ncdenr.gov for details)
- **Coastal Habitat Protection Plan Steering Committee Meeting** | August 3rd, TBD (contact apnep@ncdenr.gov for details)

Current Grant Opportunities



- June 1: [EPA Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program](#)
- June 1: [EPA Environmental Justice Small Grants Program](#)
- Ongoing: [NC Community Foundation Disaster Relief Fund](#)
- Ongoing: [NC Sea Grant Minigrants Program](#)

Grant details

Partner Spotlight

JOIN THE CROWD -- BE A CITIZEN SCIENTIST FOR YOUR COMMUNITY!

How you can help your waterways:



1. Know how to report an algal bloom correctly.
 - a. Make sure you have an algal bloom not duckweed or other surface water plants
 - b. Take a good picture of the bloom (include a scale)
 - c. Submit daily reports with new pictures to DEQ website for documentation:
<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/c23ba14c74bb47f3a8aa895f1d976f0d?portalUrl=https://ncdenr.maps.arcgis.com>
 - d. Call Washington DEQ office to report a bloom if it persists for more than a few days.
 - e. Report fish kills the same way
2. Keep trash out of the water – microplastics and macroplastics!
3. Encourage waterfront stabilization projects to keep the sediments out of the water
4. Be aware of lawn clippings, extra fertilizers, and other chemicals or debris that may be running off into your local canals, ditches and/or waterways

Be a Citizen Scientist with the Chowan-Edenton Environmental Group

Along with heat and humidity, the presence of algal blooms in our region's waterways is unfortunately another sign that summer has arrived. The Chowan-Edenton Environmental Group (CEEG) is a citizen-led group working in eastern North Carolina to contribute to reporting, monitoring, and gathering data about algal blooms as they arise. They are asking for everyone's help in documenting these events by going to the [NC Department of Environmental Quality's Citizen Report tool](#). Learn more about this and other citizen science opportunities on the [CEEG website](#).

Access the algal bloom and fish kill reporting tool

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- [The other coup d'etat: Remembering New Bern in 1898](#) (*Coastal Review Online*)
- [Building Coastal Resilience Through Shoreline Management](#) (*NC Sea Grant Coastwatch Currents*)
- [Officials: Living shorelines and nature-based solutions better protect the coast](#) (*WNCT9*)
- [Inclusion of Intra- and Interspecific Facilitation Expands the Theoretical Framework for Seagrass Restoration](#) (*Frontiers in Marine Science*)



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